



Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

NEWS RELEASE

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WIFA Chairman Owens Announces \$5 Million Loan to the Water Utilities Community Facility District of Apache Junction

PHOENIX (Feb. 27, 2008) -- Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA) of Arizona Chairman Steve Owens announced today that the WIFA Board of Directors has approved a \$5 million loan to the Water Utilities Community Facilities District of Apache Junction for the Mesa Interconnect Project.

WIFA will provide the district with the 15-year low-interest loan, which will establish a water transmission line to connect with the City of Mesa and deliver Central Arizona Project water to Apache Junction. This will allow for maximum CAP allocation to Apache Junction and reduce groundwater pumping in the area.

The Mesa Interconnect project will include a water booster station and a pump house located at Baseline Road and Signal Butte Road and provide for the connection of a 12-inch diameter water main to an existing 16-inch diameter Mesa water line. The 12-inch water main will extend for about 4 miles east to Idaho Road and deliver water to the Baseline Road storage tank.

The Mesa Interconnect will be of great benefit to groundwater users in the Apache Junction area by providing current and future water supply for the district's 12,900 customers.

"By committing to the development of a CAP water transmission line from the district to Mesa, the Water Utilities CFD will help move the district away from its reliance on groundwater and enable it to use its CAP allotment," said Chairman Owens, who is also the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). "This loan will help the district conserve our precious groundwater resources and is a great investment in the community's future."

The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona maintains and improves water quality in Arizona by providing communities and private water systems with access to low-interest financial assistance and technical assistance needed for basic water infrastructure. For more information, please visit WIFA's Web site at www.azwifa.gov.